

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 4-12, 15-22, and 25-32 will be pending. By this amendment, claims 1, 12 and 22 have been amended. Claims 2, 13, 23, 33 and 34 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Advisory Action of November 22, 2005, it is indicated that claims 2, 4, 8, 9, 13, 15, 19, 20, 23, 25, 27, 29 and 30 are objected to. Claims 1, 5-7, 10-12, 16-18, 21, 22, 26, 28 and 31-34 are rejected. It is stated that incorporation of claim 2, 13 or 23 or other objected claims into independent claims 1, 12, 22, 33 and 34 could result in allowance of the application in light of applicant's present arguments. Claims 2, 13 and 23 have been incorporated into claims 1, 12 and 22, respectively. Claims 2, 13, 23, 33 and 34 have been canceled.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1, 12 and 22 are now in condition for allowance. Since claims 4, 8, 9, 15, 19, 20, 25, 27, 29 and 30 depend from one of claims 1, 12 and 22, as amended herein, claims 4, 8, 9, 15, 19, 20, 25, 27, 29 and 30 should be allowable over the cited prior art of record. Since claims 5-7, 10-11, 16-18, 21, 26, 28 and 31-32 depend from one of claims 1, 12 and 22, as amended herein, claims 7, 10-11, 16-18, 21, 26, 28 and 31-32 should also be allowable over the cited prior art of record.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the objection to claims 2, 4, 8, 9, 13, 15, 19, 20, 23, 25, 27, 29 and 30, and the rejection of claims 1, 5-7, 10-12, 16-18, 21, 22, 26, 28 and 31-34, have been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with claims 1, 4-12, 15-22, and 25-32 is respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.


In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number written below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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